REGIONAL FUGITIVE TASK FORCES

CATCH OF THE WEEK

Week of March 6, 2006

Taking the Worst of the Worst Off the Streets

Pacific Southwest Regional Fugitive Task Force

Eduardo Medina was arrested on March 8, 2006 by investigators from the Pacific Southwest Regional Task Force (PSWRFTF), and officers and agents from the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), Housing and Urban Development (HUD), the Long Beach Police Department (LBPD) and Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD). Medina, a known member of the "East L.A. Trece Tiny Boys" street gang and previously deported criminal alien, was wanted by the LAPD for kidnapping, robbery and felon in possession of a firearm. Charges allege that in December 2005 Medina and Roberto Alba kidnapped the daughter of a restaurant owner and held her for ransom. A ransom money drop was arranged, during which Alba was arrested and the victim was safely recovered; however, Medina eluded capture. In late December 2005, the LAPD requested the assistance of the PSWRFTF in locating and arresting Medina. PSWRFTF investigators initiated an investigation and requested the assistance of the U.S. Marshals Technical Operations Group (TOG). On March 08, 2006 investigators established surveillance at an apartment complex in Long Beach, CA. Medina was observed leaving the apartment complex in a vehicle. Task Force members followed Medina and requested the assistance of Long Beach Police Department marked units. observed the Long Beach Police units and began driving at a high rate of speed. Long Beach Police units pursued Medina. During the pursuit, Medina collided with a vehicle, leaving his vehicle disabled. Long Beach Police officers ordered Medina out of his vehicle, but Medina refused and stated he was armed with a .44 caliber handgun. The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB) responded to the scene, along with a crisis negotiation team. After several hours of negotiation, Medina surrendered without further incident.

"East LA Trece Tiny Boys" street gang member



Eduardo Medina

Wanted for Kidnapping, Robbery, and Felon in Possession of a Firearm

New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force

On March 8, 2006 the New York/New Jersey Regional Fugitive Task Force (NY/NJ RFTF) arrested Darryl Chase who was wanted by the Baltimore City Police Department for a Father's Day attack that left one man dead and another wounded in East Baltimore, MD. On June 20, 2004 Darryl Chase approached the victims, who were in a vehicle with two children, and opened fire. The first victim was wounded but survived the attack; the second victim threw his body over his two children and was fatally shot. The children escaped injury. On March 9, 2006 a warrant was issued for the arrest of Darryl Chase. Police discovered that the shooting stemmed from domestic issues. The case was turned over to the Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force (CARFTF), who then forwarded the case to the NY/NJ RFTF in January 2005 after learning that Chase was in New York. The NY/NJ RFTF pursued numerous leads and developed information indicating that the subject was staying at an apartment in New York City. On March 8, 2006 Task Force members proceeded to the target location, observed Chase in front of the apartment complex, and took him in to custody. Chase awaits extradition to Maryland where he faces charges of homicide and first degree assault.



Darryl Chase

Wanted for Homicide and First Degree Assault

Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force

On March 9, 2006 members of the Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force (GLRFTF) arrested Samuel Brown in East St. Louis, Illinois. On July 11, 2005 a female victim was shot and killed in East St. Louis, IL. An investigation by the East St. Louis PD resulted in warrants being issued for Cornelius Rickman and Samuel Brown. Rickman was arrested shortly after the warrants were issued, while Brown eluded arrest. The GLRFTF was contacted and asked to locate and arrest Brown. The murder served as alleged retaliation for a shooting that occurred days earlier when the victim's boyfriend shot at Rickman and Brown. It was reported that Rickman and Brown ambushed the victim and her boyfriend while they were at a liquor store in East St. Louis, IL. It is believed that the boyfriend was Rickman and Brown's intended target. On March 9, 2006, East St. Louis PD detectives received information that Brown was hiding in apartment in East St. Louis, IL. East St. Louis PD detectives immediately contacted members of GLRFTF and requested assistance. GLRFTF members met with officers of the East St. Louis PD and responded to the location. As officers knocked on the front door, Brown and another subject were met at the back door and arrested as they attempted to flee.



Samuel Brown

Wanted for Murder

Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force

Fugitives Sam Waters and Walter Miller were arrested on March 10, 2006 in Hardeeville, SC by deputy US marshals (DUSMs) from S/GA and the Southeast Regional Fugitive Task Force (SERFTF) after a tip was received from the Garden City, GA Police. DUSMs responded to a motel with the Hardeeville Police and located both men. One was arrested in the hotel lobby and the other was taken in to custody in his room. The men were wanted in connection with a home invasion robbery that occurred in Garden City, GA on March 7, 2006 during which a seventy-six year old female was beaten and tied up. An accomplice to that attack, Lisa Johnson, was arrested on March 8, 2006 in Savannah, GA. The three are suspected of a string of home invasion robberies from West Palm Beach, FL to Savannah, GA. Approximately seven departments are sending investigators to interview the three suspects. All three may be part of a group of gypsies known to commit burglaries in Florida. The group left their home area after their criminal activities became too violent for the counterparts. Waters was arrested on warrants from Florida for burglary with an attempted sexual assault of the victim and a state parole warrant from New York. A warrant for Miller was issued in Garden City, GA for the March 2006 home invasion.



Sam Waters



Wanted for Home Invasion Robberies

Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force

On September 20, 2001 members of the Metropolitan Police Department responded to a report of a shooting in Southeast, Washington D.C. Upon arrival, a victim suffering from gunshot wounds to the head and chest was found, and later pronounced dead. As the manner of death was ruled a homicide, the Metropolitan Police immediately opened an investigation. Witnesses to the crime were interviewed, helping to identify Carl Stephan Meade as a suspect. On the March 8, 2006, a warrant from D.C. Superior Court charged Meade with first degree murder while armed. The case was turned over to the Capital Area Regional Fugitive Task Force (CARFTF) for apprehension. CARFTF members immediately began searching for Meade. Investigative information led CARFTF to Meade's location. On March 09, 2006 Meade was located and taken in to custody.



Wanted for First Degree Murder While Armed